## Supervisor's Richmond town hall to focus on housing crisis

The event is part of a countywide series to discuss the housing crisis and listen to residents' experiences and proposals



John Gioia, District 1 Contra Costa County Supervisor incumbent, in Richmond, Calif. on Wednesday, April 14, 2010. (Dean Coppola/Staff)

By TOM LOCHNER | tlochner@bayareanewsgroup.com | Bay Area News Group PUBLISHED: September 27, 2017 at 10:19 am | UPDATED: September 27, 2017 at 10:38 am

RICHMOND — Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia will co-host a town hall meeting on the subject of housing Sept. 30 at Church of Christ, 1501 Florida Ave. Co-hosts of the 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. meeting are the Ensuring Opportunity campaign to end poverty in the county, and the Multi-Faith Action Coalition, which seeks to address the root causes of poverty through advocacy and public policy change, according to its website.

Gioia will be co-chairman of a new Contra Costa Housing Advisory Committee that will develop a countywide affordable housing plan, according to a release from his office. The committee will include housing advocates, community members, and civic, business, labor and environmental leaders.

Saturday's town hall meeting will be one in a series planned in the county to discuss the housing crisis and listen to residents' experiences and ideas on solving the problem Some 65 percent of Bay Area residents believe housing affordability is a serious problem, according to the release, with many renters spending more than half of their income on rent, leaving little for food, health care, commuting, and child care.

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"Our region must come together to solve our housing affordability crisis, or we risk growing economic disparity and increased homelessness," Gioia said.

To RSVP, click here.